

**Urgent – Utilization of National Provider Identifier (NPI)
With Virginia Medicaid Pharmacy Claims Processing**

All Virginia Medicaid providers are now required to share their NPI with DMAS and submit NPIs on all transactions effective May 23, 2008. Pharmacy providers are responsible for obtaining and submitting prescribers' NPIs when processing pharmacy claims. As of December 2007, only 5% of Virginia Medicaid's pharmacy claims were submitted with the prescriber's NPI. As we approach the final NPI compliance date of May 23, 2008, it is critical that pharmacy providers begin to adopt this practice to ensure that there is no disruption to claims payments.

**WE URGE PHARMACY PROVIDERS TO IMMEDIATELY BEGIN UTILIZING
THEIR PROVIDER NPI AND SUBMITTING THE PRESCRIBER'S NPI ON ALL
VIRGINIA MEDICAID PHARMACY CLAIMS.**

There are several resources available to identify the appropriate NPI for prescribers:

- **CMS/ NPPES Registry** - <https://nppes.cms.hhs.gov/NPPES/> (searchable database)
OR <http://nppesdata.cms.hhs.gov/> (to download file)
- **DMAS Prescriber Identification List** - http://www.dmas.virginia.gov/pr-provider_no.asp?redir=pr-prescriber_id_list.htm
- **First Health Clinical Call Center (Pharmacy)** – (800) 932-6648

When submitting real-time (Point-of-Sale) claims transactions, the 10-digit NPI for the Prescriber ID and Provider ID must be sent with the Qualifier '01'. Please see the following link for the National Council for Prescription Drug Program (NCPDP) Companion Guide that will provide instructions for submitting claims with the appropriate Qualifier: https://virginia.fhsc.com/documents/NCPDP51_NPI-v12-20070606.pdf

As a healthcare provider, you should have already obtained an NPI from National Plan and Provider Enumeration System (NPPES) (<https://nppes.cms.hhs.gov>), and enrolled your NPI with DMAS. If you have not shared your NPI with DMAS, you should contact the First Health Provider Enrollment Unit (PEU) at 1-888-829-5373 (In-state and Outside Virginia) for instructions.

Contact the First Health Clinical Call Center at (800) 932-6648, or send an email to NPI@dmas.virginia.gov for further questions related to the use of NPI in pharmacy claims processing. Thank you for your immediate attention to this matter as we prepare for the termination of the dual use period (NPI or Legacy Medicaid Provider Identification Number).